

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 AEC-05 AF-06 ARA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-06 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NASA-01

NEA-09 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

RSC-01 OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /111 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:GHUMPHREY:SB

APPROVED BY EUR:WSTABLER

EUR/SOV:MGARRISON

ACDA/IR:JMCNEILL

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R 180012Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UR, IAEA, UN, PFOR, MILI

SUBJECT: VENTING OF UNDERGROUND EXPLOSIONS

GENEVA FOR CCD

1. ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY STABLER CALLED IN SOVIET
MINISTER COUNSELOR VORONTSOV ON JANUARY 16 TO GIVE HIM
THE FOLLOWING NOTE VERBALE.

BEGIN QUOTE. THE SECRETARY OF STATE PRESENTS HIS COM-
PLIMENTS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE UNION
OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND HAS THE HONOR TO
REMIND HIM OF THE CONTINUING IMPORTANCE ATTACHED BY THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE FULL COMPLIANCE
BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION WITH THE PROVISIONS
OF THE TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS IN THE
ATMOSPHERE, IN OUTER SPACE AND UNDER WATER, SIGNED AT
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MOSCOW ON AUGUST 5, 1963.

IN THIS CONNECTION, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WISHES TO CALL TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION THE COLLECTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF THE SOVIET UNION OF RADIOACTIVE DEBRIS DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE SOVIET NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS OF AUGUST 29 AND NOVEMBER 2, 1974. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED BY THESE OCCURRENCES, WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE

TERMS OF THE 1963 TREATY OF MOSCOW.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS SINCE 1963 COMMUNICATED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION ITS VIEWS CONCERNING 17 PREVIOUS NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS WHICH HAVE SIMILARLY CAUSED RADIOACTIVE DEBRIS TO BE PRESENT IN THE ATMOSPHERE OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY OF THE SOVIET UNION. AS RECENTLY AS MAY 22, 1974 THE SOVIET UNION REPLIED TO THE LATEST UNITED STATES COMMUNICATION ON THIS SUBJECT, THE U.S. AIDE-MEMOIRE OF MARCH 21, 1974, AND STATED THAT, "APPROPRIATE SOVIET AUTHORITIES WERE AND ARE TAKING THE NECESSARY MEASURES FOR STRICT OBSERVANCE OF MOSCOW TREATY OF 1963..."

AS AN ORIGINAL PARTY TO THE 1963 TREATY OF MOSCOW, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES EXPECTS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION TO TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT ANY RECURRENCE OF SUCH INCIDENTS. UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE IN RECENT YEARS HAS SHOWN THAT WITH PROPER PRECAUTIONS IT IS POSSIBLE TO PREVENT CAUSING RADIOACTIVE DEBRIS TO BE PRESENT OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY OF A STATE CONDUCTING NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS OF THE VIEW THAT FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE 1963 TREATY OF MOSCOW BY ALL PARTIES IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE, BOTH FOR PRESERVING THE INTEGRITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS TREATY AND ALSO FOR THE DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF THE SOVIET UNION OF THAT STATE OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE NECESSARY TO ENSURE

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THE SUCCESS OF FUTURE EFFORTS TO REGULATE NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ASSUMES THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION FULLY SHARES THIS VIEW. END QUOTE.

2. VORONTSOV SAID THAT HE WOULD TRANSMIT THE NOTE VERBALE TO HIS AUTHORITIES AND THAT A REPLY WOULD BE PROVIDED IN DUE COURSE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY VIOLATION, NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, FOREIGN POLICY
POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE012344
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GHUMPHREY:SB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750020-0208
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750140/aaaabijj.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAR 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VENTING OF UNDERGROUND EXPLOSIONS GENEVA FOR CCD
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, MILI, UR, US, IAEA, UN
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006